

**In favor of H.B. 6355**

Knowing that firearms sales skyrocketed during the pandemic has created a very unsettled feeling in me. And this pandemic has created a surge in mental health issues. Guns and emotional instability make a dangerous combination.

Connecticut's ERPO law is critical to remove firearms from people that are exhibiting signs of hurting themselves and/or others. Expanding the list of people who can intervene, preventing the purchase of a gun if an order is issued and ensuring a person follows a process to get their firearms back if an order is issued will further enhance the ability of this order to protect the individual's family as well as the public.

I have never been directly affected by gun violence but, I have many people in my family who own firearms. If I knew someone in my family was in danger of hurting themselves or others with their gun, I would want to know that until they got the help they needed, that their guns were removed and that I as a family member could make this happen.

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